It is further resolved that every archival organisation should subscribe on regular basis important Newspapers in English and in other languages popular in their region and such papers for preservation should be kept intact and no clipping should be done for whatsoever purposes.

Also resolved that where old copies of Newspapers are not available, the Central/State archival organisations should purchase from the available sources or on transfer from Government Offices if they have".

Explanatory Note : The importance of Newspapers as a source of information of important events/incidents/occurences as well as for their views on contemporary events/matters has been universally recognised. The news-items, the feature articles, letters to the editor or the editorials themselves speak of the mind and mood both of the contemporary Government and the people. In other words the programme, policy, lines of action proposed or adopted by the Government or the feeling and aspirations of the public are conveyed to the world through journalistic lenses and the filter glasses. It is for this reason that efforts are being made to preserve old issues of important Newspapers. For example, by Resolution V of the 30th Meeting (New Delhi, July, 1960) the Research and Publication Committee recommended that "the Union and the State Governments be requested to issue necessary instructions to the administrative Departments under them not to destroy the old newspapers, gazettes, books etc. in their libraries without consulting the officers-in-charge of Archives Offices". The same spirit is reflected in Resolution VI of the 37th (New Delhi October, 1966) Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, which recommended for the preservation of the volumes of all important newspapers and periodicals publish d from Goa whether they be still current or defunct. But there is not a clear cut policy resolution for the centralisation of the collection of important newspapers at one place, (i.e. archival repositories) on permanent basis for use by research scholars. It is, therefore, necessary that a uniform policy be adopted for centralisation of atleast two sets of important newspapers in archival organisations so that if for one reason or other one set becomes unworkable the other is readily available for use. Moreover, these should not be damaged by cutting and removing any part of any particular issue for any sort of reference work. If the archival organisation is not subscribing either current newspaper or does not possess back issues either of the current or defunct papers, necessary funds should be provided to fill up the gaps.

Standing Committee's views : Preservation of newspaper files and clipping do not come, strictly speaking, under the purview of Archive institutions. There are various research institutions, libraries etc. which preserve the important newspapers. Besides, the newspaper offices themselves maintain backfiles.

Proceedings : The resolution was discussed and after considering the views of the Standing Committee, the mover agreed that the resolution might be dropped.

B. Publication of a compendium of the Indian Historical Records Commission Resolutions

(2) Resolution by Shri Tara Sharan Sinha

"Resolved that a compendium of all the Resolutions approved by the Indian Historical Records Commission in its past sessions be published for

the convenience of its members. This compendium be edited with short notes giving in nutshell the position of their implementation in Centre/ State along with references to earlier and later resolutions on a particular subject".

Explanatory Note : It is generally observed that once resolutions are passed in a particular session of the Indian Historical Records Commission, they are published in the proceedings volume of that particular session with information regarding the follow up actions in a few of the subsequent proceedings volumes. There being no consolidated compendium of past resolutions, it is rather difficult to get an idea of the action taken on them and at times very often they lapse without being fully implemented for one reason or the other or are pushed out of the memory of the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission. New members are particularly handicapped for want for the same. It, therefore, looks pertinent that a compendium is prepared.

Standing Committee's views : A compendium of the Resolutions of the Indian Historical Records Commission covering the years 1919—1948 was published in 1949. Part II of this compendium pertaining to years 1948—1973 is now under print.

Proceedings : In view of the Standing Committee's observations, the resolution was dropped with the consent of the mover.

C. **Preservation of journals in Indian languages**

(3) **Resolution by Dr. Durgaprasad Bhattacharya**

"The Indian Historical Records Commission hereby appeals to learned societies, research institutions and State Governments to take special steps to preserve and maintain journals in Indian languages published during the nineteenth century and requests the Members of the Commission to take an initiative in the matter whenever possible.

Resolved further that the Union Ministry of Education be requested to initiate a move in this direction to preserve this important source of history by microfilming from abroad if necessary.

The Indian Historical Records Commission resolves to extend its co-operation to all concerned".

Explanatory Note : Recently, a project was undertaken by the Socio-Economic Research Institute, Calcutta, to index and analyse economic writing in Bengali. It was found that about 50 percent (or more) of volumes of journals and periodicals were totally missing. Among the rest, most of the volumes are in a very shattered condition. These journals are very important source material of history. The Bangiya Sahitya Parishad and the National Library possess the largest holdings. It is presumed that journals in other languages also deserve a similar treatment. The Documentation Centre of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) has been trying to catalogue available holdings. It is equally important to maintain and preserve these important sources of history.